

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY USSR (Latvian SSR, Kaliningrad Oblast)

REPORT

SUBJECT Shipping and Naval Maneuvers in the Baltic Sea

DATE DISTR.

8 June 1953

NO. OF PAGES

1

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

25X1

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25X1

25X1 25X1

1. [redacted] off Lepaya (N 56-34, E 21-00) on 10 February 1952, [redacted] a destroyer. The vessel had two funnels, and displaced an estimated 2000 tons. She carried out maneuvers all day at a distance of between 35 and 40 nautical miles from [redacted] ship. A similar vessel was observed near the horizon towards land. 25X1 25X1
2. [redacted] from 18 March to 2 April 1952, and between 20 and 30 miles north north-east of Bruster Ort (N 54-57, E 19-55) from 3 April 1952 to 7 April 1952 [redacted] the only vessels observed were Soviet trawlers. 25X1 25X1

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COUNTRY USSR (Kaliningrad Oblast)

REPORT

SUBJECT Port of Pionerskiy

DATE DISTR. 8 June 1953

NO. OF PAGES 1

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25X1

1. [redacted] Pionerskiy harbor [redacted] ther 25X1
were three watch towers, all between six and seven meters high, in the harbor area. Watch headquarters, at the entrance to the harbor area, received reports from them 25X1 when a cutter was proceeding in. Two or three soldiers from watch headquarters would board the cutter immediately after it anchored, and conduct a thorough examination of it. They were outfitted with long, sharp, iron spears which they thrust into the fishing cargo as well as other less accessible areas of the vessel. A similar inspection was carried out when fishing vessels left the harbor.
2. Three patrol motor boats [redacted] were observed in the harbor. Some fishing cutters, painted gray, were presumed also to serve as patrol vessels. Three more patrol boats were moored at the slip; they were described as wooden vessels with a high wheel house, two cannons, one fore and one aft, as well as smaller guns directly aft of the bridge. [redacted]
The boats flew green flags. 25X1
3. An estimated 100 fishing vessels were anchored in the harbor.
4. A board fence around the harbor was under construction. At the only entrance through the fence, all in-and outgoing traffic was controlled. Roads leading to the harbor were rumored to be in poor condition; [redacted] no repair work in progress 25X1
5. Continual work proceeded in the harbor's fish house. The method of transport to and from that house was not determined.
6. No planes were observed in the vicinity of the harbor, but engines were regularly heard from the east.

1. [redacted] Comment. The boats described bear close similarity to the MO class motorboat submarine chaser. 25X1

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1. [redacted] in the harbor of Pionerskiy (N 54-56, E 20-14) [redacted] six patrol boats resembling ex-German R-Boats¹ anchored in the slip, which they habitually left at night, and returned to in the morning. Equipped with radio bearings, they apparently had no radar. One antiaircraft gun fore, and one aft, was the observed extent of their armament. They flew Soviet merchant flags. 25X1

2. Two merchant ships with a displacement of approximately 200 tons apiece were being unloaded or loaded by women workers near the warehouse. Some dirty fishing boats in ill repair, which seemingly never plied their trade, were also observed in the harbor.

3. Along the western end of the pier extending in an east-west direction, the water depth was less than two meters. The depth at the northeast end must have been considerably greater, as a 200-ton merchant ship and a fishing cutter were submerged there. Divers off the patrol boats often worked on these vessels during the day.

4. [redacted] 25X1

5. A watchtower, at which a soldier kept continual watch, was located on the east pierhead. It apparently possessed no armament. Flashing signals from ships entering the harbor caused the harbor lights to be lit.

6. The piers were considered in good condition, although the hammer (sic) was too low to serve any useful purpose. Roads in the harbor area were observed to be rutted and muddy. 25X1

1. [redacted] Comment. The former German R-Boats are reported to be employed as submarine chasers. They have one antiaircraft gun on the forecastle, and two aft of the bridge.

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COUNTRY USSR (Murmansk Oblast)

REPORT

SUBJECT Naval Units, Installations, and Security, Kola Inlet and Murmansk

DATE DISTR. 8 June 1953

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO.

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25X1

1. Off Laush Point (N 69-45, E 33-05) on 28 August 1952, a destroyer with a short forecastle, one funnel¹ and two masts, and a cruiser with two funnels. These ships were sailing into Motovskiy Bay (N 69-35, E 32-30); ship was en route towards Kola Inlet (N 69-15, E 33-30), which was reached at 2200 hours. Five seaplanes were observed as they landed in the darkness in Vayenga Bay (N 69-05, E 33-26) as the ship passed on her way to Murmansk, where she docked.

25X1

2. Two large destroyers with two three-stemmed masts, and two funnels² had anchored to buoys in Vayenga Bay when the ship passed that location on her way out of Kola Inlet.

25X1

25X1

3.

4.

5.

25X1

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1. Comment. Description resembles the specifications of a **GNEVNIY** class destroyer, of which some were reported in the Baltic Fleet in autumn 1952. 25X1
2. Comment. Description resembles the specifications of a **MATSU** class coastal destroyer, all of which were in the Pacific Fleet at last report. 25X1

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COUNTRY	USSR (Murmansk Oblast)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Gunnery Practice and Installations in Kola Inlet	DATE DISTR.	8 June 1953
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25X1

1. in the Kola Inlet (N 69-15, E 33-30) area gunnery practice at a target towed by a minesweeper gun positions located at N 69-13, E 33-29; N 69-15, E 29-27; and on Toros Island (N 69-18, E 33-27). Three or four-shot volleys came from Toros Island, with an interval of three or four minutes between volleys. The caliber of the guns was judged at between ten and 15 centimeters. Firing appeared very inaccurate. 25X1
2. Salnyy Island (N 69-08, E 33-36) possessed a radar installation. The radar was housed in a large dome, around which ran a platform sufficiently wide for a man to walk on. No artillery positions were observed on the island.
3. Extensive construction, presumed to be that of gun positions, was proceeding in the cliffs at N 69-03, E 33-10. The positions were being excavated in such a way that they would blend with the contours of the cliffs. 25X1

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25X1

COUNTRY	Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Radar Functioning on Soviet Naval Vessels	DATE DISTR.	8 June 1953
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1

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25X1

1. [redacted] in the Baltic between 2200 and 2400 hours, 4 25X1
[redacted] radar was disturbed considerably by the functioning of sets aboard
four small naval units off the north coast of Rugen Island (N 54-26, E 13-27). 25X1
The vessels, two abreast, were making a southeasterly course.

1. [redacted] Comment. Inasmuch as it had not been established that either East German 25X1
Sea Police craft, or smaller Polish units have radar, it was presumed that the
vessels in question were Soviet MTBs. 25X1

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COUNTRY	USSR (Kaliningrad Oblast)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Naval and Air Activity in the Baltic	DATE DISTR.	8 June 1953
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25X1

1. [REDACTED] two patrol boats [REDACTED] in the harbor from 3 May to 8 May. From 8 May to 15 May, seven small steel minesweepers, of a size comparable to that of an ex-German R-boat, used the harbor, generally at night; during the day, they conducted target practice at sea. [REDACTED]

25X1
2. Two sea planes, single-engine with fixed pontoons, and resembling gliders, were observed approximately 20 nautical miles north-northwest of Bruster Ort (N 54-57, E 19-55) on 3 May. Other air activity [REDACTED] in Pionerskiy harbor consisted of target practice by small planes at sleeves towed by gliders.

25X1

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COUNTRY USSR (Lithuanian SSR)
SUBJECT Naval Maneuvers in the Baltic

REPORT

DATE DISTR. 8 June 1953

NO. OF PAGES 1

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25X1

1. [] in the Baltic at the end of November 1952 [] two cruisers approximately 40 nautical miles west of Klaypeda (N 55-43, E 21-09). One remained at anchor the greater part of the day; the other had way on and at one time laid a smokescreen. 25X1
2. At about the same position, on 1 February 1953 at 0800 hours, two cruisers and one smaller vessel were observed proceeding south in linear order. That night [] the same units struck a northerly course along the shoreline. Their navigational lights were lit. 25X1

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25X1

COUNTRY	USSR (Estonian SSR)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Security Measures and Naval Units, Sarema Island	DATE DISTR.	8 June 1953
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DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1
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25X1

1.

a Soviet patrol boat, resembling an MO-Class motor boat submarine chaser (which often performed patrol service in this area). The patrol boat towed vessel towards Taggalaklet Bay (N 58-30, E 22-04) on the northwest side of Sarema Island (N 58-20, E 22-30).

25X1

2. During the towing, a Soviet officer accompanied by from eight to ten soldiers boarded informant's vessel. He explained that the ship was being detained because she had entered the twelve-mile limit.

25X1

3. a bridge being constructed in the bay.

name which sounded to him like "Karvitz"2.

A small cargo ship was unloading cross-ties and steel material which resembled antennae masts near the bridge. No other naval units were observed

4.

5.

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25X1

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-2-

1. [redacted] Comment. The co-ordinates are believed to be incorrect. No town 25X1
this name was located [redacted] 25X1
2. [redacted] Comment. The Soviets might have been referring to the Kharilaid
Peninsula (N 58-31, E 21-52) [redacted] 25X1
The fact that Taggalaklet B [redacted]
is reportedly well fortified would seem to lend strength to this surmise.

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COUNTRY	Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Soviet Minesweeping Maneuvers in Baltic	DATE DISTR.	8 June 1953
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25X1

1. [redacted] off Tromper Bay. (N 54-37, E 13-38), he observed six Soviet minesweepers in formation, three abreast, sweeping on a westerly course. [redacted] Between 1000 and 1500 meters separated the squads; 100 meters separated the ships in the squads. Turns of 180 degrees, not executed on an apparent signal, maintained the formation. As reports were current of wrecks in the area, it was presumed that the waters were being cleared for a subsequent salvaging operation.
2. None of the vessels flew a national flag. They all flew a red pennant; in addition, the letter G was painted on the port yardarm, and K on the starboard yardarm.

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COUNTRY Germany/USSR (Lithuanian SSR)

SUBJECT Soviet Naval and Air Sightings in Baltic

REPORT

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25X1

1. Approximately 30 nautical miles west of Klaypeda (N 55-43, E 21-09) at 0300 hours. 25X1
24 April 1952, a vessel

The observed vessel was an estimated 60 to 70 meters long. Her forecastle was long, and she had one mast, and one funnel aft of the bridge. 25X1
Her armament consisted of one gun turret on the forecastle, and two aft. The turrets were semi-spherical steel towers of a greater height than that of a man. The diameter of the guns was approximated at 15 centimeters; they extended about one meter from the turrets. A 90 centimeter projector was forward on the bridge (sic).
vessel to be oil burning. 25X1

2. a small submarine, observed at 1830 hours, 18 April 1952, at 25X1
N 55-23, E 20-15, as M-234. Her stern was rounded; the aft section of the conning tower slanted. She carried no guns.² She had no net saw, and flew no flag. 25X1
Approximately ten seamen, wearing round caps, stood on the deck around the conning tower. After about 30 minutes in this position, the submarine made way for the north, and disappeared. During the following two days, another submarine 25X1
submerging 30 nautical miles southwest of Klaypeda.

3. Three Soviet patrol boats, believed to be of the PI or PK type, were observed 25X1
ten nautical miles southwest of Bruster Ort (N 54-57, E 19-55) on 13 April 1952. 25X1

4. approximately 30 nautical miles west of Klaypeda on 3 April 1952, considerable air activity during the day. The aircraft had one engine, a single rudder, and were equipped with pontoons. The cockpit provided space for three men sitting behind each other; the rear occupant faced the aircraft's tail and served as a gunner. The aircraft seemed to slope towards the tail.³ 25X1

5. During the night and early morning of 23-24 April 1952, informant heard considerable shooting and aircraft engines off Klaypeda. When it became light, informant noted a vessel towing a target near the horizon.

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25X1

1. [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED] Comment. The M Class submarine is reported to have one gun turret on the forecastle. 25X1
3. [REDACTED] Comment. Presumably the aircraft were Il-2, Il-3, or Il-10 types, of the Fourth (Southern) Baltic Fleet's Air Arm, based in the Kaliningrad area. 25X1

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COUNTRY USSR (Leningrad Oblast)

REPORT

SUBJECT Naval Units in the Finnish Gulf

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1. [redacted] in the Finnish Gulf on 29 July 1952 [redacted] a cruiser directly west of the Leningrad lightship (approximately N 60-03, E 28-42) making a westerly course. [redacted] two funnels, and two gun turrets aft. [redacted] two anchored outside the harbor of Kronshtadt (N 59-59, E 29-45), and one inside. To them were ascribed the additional characteristics of a high bridge and fore-castle. All four ships flew command and flag pennants, were painted light gray, and appeared to be relatively new. [redacted] of the SVERDLOV Class; it was postulated that one of them might have been the CHKALOV.. 25X1 25X1
2. The training ship KOMSOMOLETS, two large modern submarines, and several minesweepers were also observed in the Finnish Gulf during the period of 29-31 July 1952. The submarines entered Leningrad harbor at 2300 hours on 29 July [redacted] streamlined conning towers. 25X1
3. Ten minesweepers of the M-40 Class were observed proceeding west, between the Leningrad lightship and Hogland Island (N 60-05, E 27-00), on 29 July. Although they were generally sailing in two squads of five, their formation varied occasionally. On 31 July a similar formation of ten minesweepers of the T-301 Class sweeping on a westerly course was observed west of the Leningrad lightship.
4. A floating dock was seen at the Kanonerskiy Shipyard in Leningrad harbor, into which a Soviet steamer, displacing between 6000 and 7000 tons, was maneuvered on 29 July. At Leningrad's Zhdanov shipyard was docked a three-funneled transport, which was seen anchored in the Kronshtadt harbor two days later. The Kronshtadt harbor had appeared empty on 29 July. 25X1
1. Comment. Large, streamlined submarines were repeatedly reported in the Baltic area during 1952. One observed during the spring in Ventspils (N 57-34, E 21-31) was judged longer than 80 meters.

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